

## BROWNSON'S STORY IS SUPPRESSED

Surgeon-General Rixey's Position in Naval Staff Already Published.

### MAY DEFEAT NAVAL PLANS

Conflict Between Line and Staff Particularly Depreciated by Friends of Navy.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 26.—Not since the days preceding the passage of the naval personnel law ten years ago has the feeling between line and staff in the navy been so acute as to-day as a result of the refusal of Admiral Brownson to transmit orders from his superior officer, the President, assigning him as surgeon to command a vessel in the navy.

In the case of the personnel act, it was Mr. Roosevelt, then Assistant Secretary of the Navy, who acted the part of pacifier and succeeded in bringing the two warring factions together in support of the measure. In the present instance, however, the efforts of the President to reconcile the surgeon and the line officers has failed, and it is probable that the whole controversy will be threshed out in Congress.

This is much deprecated by conservative officers in both line and staff, as likely to prove prejudicial to the navy's interest as a whole, for they believe that in order to succeed in securing from Congress the four great battleships, the cruisers, scouts and submarines which form a part of the year's naval estimate in addition to securing legislation that will better the lot of naval officers personally, the navy must present a united front.

Through the published statement of Surgeon-General Rixey, the merits of the doctor's side of the case in this instance have been clearly set forth. Line officers believe that common fairness, they should also have a hearing. Admiral Brownson preceded his resignation by a cold, clear and logical presentation of the reasons why he objected to the assignment of a physician to command a naval ship, even though that vessel were exclusively devoted to hospital service.

That statement was submitted to the President, and notwithstanding the fact that he has said in print, applications at the White House for this letter are met with refusal. Now it is clearly impossible for Admiral Brownson or any of his line officers to get a public copy of the letter without incurring the risk of a court-martial. So they can look for a change in the executive mind or for the congressional investigation which will doubtless get all the facts. Admiral Brownson's objection to the execution of the President's order to place a surgeon in command of the hospital ship Relief was two-fold. First, he believed that every officer, be he surgeon or line officer, should be subordinate to a staff officer on shipboard, was bad policy and subversive of naval discipline. But a stronger objection in his mind was that the proposed action was clearly illegal, inasmuch as it is forbidden by law or naval regulations to assign a staff officer to command a ship.

It is only fair to the staff side to state that this is a debatable ground, and that it would not be difficult to construe the naval laws and regulations in either way.

**Position of Line Officers.**—The relative rank of the line officers is upon a provision in section 7 of the naval personnel act of March 3, 1899. Up to that date staff officers had enjoyed what was called "relative rank," with which they were not satisfied, so in section 7 the word "relative" was struck out so that all sections of the Revised Statutes, which in defining the rank of officers or positions in the navy, contained the words "relative rank" were amended so as to read "the rank of."

To this provision the following important qualification was attached:

"But officers whose rank is so defined shall not be entitled in virtue of their rank to command in the line or in their staff corps."

Line officers understand this to mean that no surgeon, engineer or paymaster or constructor shall be placed in a position on board ship where he may command the move.

Of course there is nothing too good for your family.

That's why you should insist on getting only the Best, Purest and most Healthful of everything.

Of course, that means **Staylor's**

And All Other Products Bearing the Signature of **Staylor's**

Retail Stores and Sales Agents Everywhere

**Staylor's** Chocolate Dipped TRISCUIT

The Best CHILDREN'S HEALTH WAFER Ever Produced

Miss Margaret Armstrong, of Albemarle, is spending the Christmas holidays with the Misses Woodfin, 2309 West Grace Street.



## Many Thanks, Christmas,

For your generous patronage. We may see the old faces often and the new ones soon again.

Meanwhile, thrifty persons can find lots of purse-tickers among the odds and ends of holiday selling. For instance:

\$8 and \$10 Umbrellas, \$5.75.  
\$7.50 and \$8.50 Smoking Jackets, \$5.00.  
\$6 and \$7 Bath Robes, \$4.50.  
\$1.50 Silk Mufflers, 79c.

## Jacobs & Levy

ments and actions of any person not of his own free will.

The officers held that this act does not in any sense abridge any privilege or rank formerly enjoyed by a staff officer.

There were no new developments today in the controversy, owing to the absence from Washington of the President.

Admiral Brownson relinquished his position as chief of the Bureau of Navigation yesterday, and the duties of that office were to-day discharged by Commander Cameron McRae Winslow, assistant chief of the bureau.

Commander Winslow signed all his mail as "acting" chief.

**Differences Defined.**—The difference between the line and staff is more or less confused. A line officer is one whose sole duty is to fight the ship, while the staff officer is one who either provides the means for the line officer to do so, or acts under his direction in carrying out his general orders.

The surgeons aboard ship look to the health of the crew, time of peace and health of the wounded in time of war, but they also have nothing to do with the movements of the ship to which they are attached, and the same rule applies to the paymaster and the constructor, who builds the ship navigated by the line officers.

It developed to-day that a year ago, when the Relief was put into commission, the decision was reached to place a naval surgeon to command the vessel in the event that it were manned with a merchant crew; but in the event that the ship was manned with a naval crew, then a naval officer of the line would be assigned to the command. Surgeon Stokes was assigned to the command of the Relief if the crew and master are chosen from the merchant marine, which, when finally decided, is understood will be the case.

Secretary Melcain again to-day declined to enter into any discussion of the issues which prompted Admiral Brownson's resignation as chief of the Navigation Bureau.

### DIES OF LOCKJAW

Death of Dr. Plesu Sustained His Reputation as a Specialist.

CHICAGO, December 26.—Dr. Joseph Plesu, a department superintendent employed by a Chicago packing firm, and regarded as a leading authority on lockjaw, died to-night of the disease, resulting from a fracture of the nose, which occurred a week ago. Dr. Plesu fell down a stairway in the laboratory of the packing house. The skin over the nose was lacerated and the wound became infected with tetanus germs. On Christmas Eve the physician was stricken with lockjaw. He diagnosed his own case, and with the aid of pencil and paper directed his family to send him to a hospital. He then sent for a lawyer and made his will. During his illness he constantly joined with the hospital physicians in their consultations, and gave it as his opinion several days ago that he could not recover. The immediate cause of death was said to be heart failure.

### FIRE IN SAN FRANCISCO

Four Buildings Burned and Two Others Seriously Damaged.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., December 26.—Fire destroyed four buildings and gutted two on Mission Street between First and Main streets to-day and did damage estimated at \$200,000. The Revere Rubber Company's plant suffered heavily, and the factory of Mangum & Otter, dealers in tiles and manholes, was destroyed. The stock of Woodward & Little, implement dealers, lost building and stock, and so did the Justice & Carr Company, hardware concern. Quick work on the part of the fire department saved a large section of the factory district, which was threatened.

### KILLED RESISTING ARREST

Chief of Police and Prisoner in Struggle for Gun.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., December 26.—Chief of Police James Merriam to-day shot and fatally wounded a prisoner, Andreiff, a Macedonian, while the latter was resisting arrest. Andreiff was arrested by the chief, and on the way to the station became unruly. When the chief drew his pistol, Andreiff resisted. In the struggle the pistol was discharged, the ball passing through Andreiff's neck, causing paralysis.

### RUSSIANS WHO WERE SHANGHAIED WALK ALL WAY TO NORFOLK

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NORFOLK, VA., December 26.—Five stranded Russian aliens, footsore and hungry, who arrived at the Union Mission yesterday, walking all the way from the North Carolina coast, declare they were so cruelly treated by customs officers that they deserted. It is a case of shanghaiing. The men were shipped at Baltimore, being enticed by promises of good wages and easy work.

## LOADS COMMITTEE AGAINST MEASURE

Speaker Cannon Appoints Anti-Prohibition Men to Direct District Affairs.

### WILLIAMS EMULATES HIM

Several Men Inclined to Prohibition Taken Off—Effects of Changes.

Times-Dispatch Bureau, Minnery Building, Washington, D. C. Speaker Cannon and Representative John Sharp Williams, between them, have succeeded in getting a Committee on the District of Columbia which will prove the despair of every temperance advocate, who has fondly dreamed of the day when no liquor should be sold within the purlieus of the capital of the nation. Speaker Cannon fixed the committee as well as the most ardent advocate of non-action on the part of legislators in the matter of prohibition or local option could wish.

Mr. Williams, whether by accident or otherwise, has gone the Speaker one better, probably; certainly he has done as well as could have been expected from a representative from a State where prohibition is as strong as it is in Mississippi. Mr. Sims, the senior Democrat on the committee, is the author of a straight prohibition bill which he introduced at this session. He had a number of strong prohibition supporters on the committee last year, but they have disappeared.

In the stead of one of them Mr. Williams appointed a Milwaukee Democrat, and if it is not the Democratic officeholder, or Republican, either, for that matter, in Milwaukee made famous by a certain beer, he should make himself known. Mr. Williams appointed a certain member of these Prohibitionist-Democrats a new member from Pennsylvania, who is said to be a part owner of a brewery in Bethlehem, where there is not and never has been a temperance society to encourage the W. C. T. U. to make a badly-needed crusade.

Seriously, while it is not charged that Mr. Williams intentionally appointed these anti-temperance members of the committee, surprise and regret are expressed that he should have done so. The surprise is manifested by the fact that he should have done so. The regret is manifested by the fact that he should have done so.

Mr. Williams' friends and supporters are surprised that he should have appointed to the Committee on the District of Columbia two Democrats known to oppose the law. It is fair to say that Mr. Sims, of Tennessee, the senior Democratic member of the committee, was not consulted by Mr. Williams when the latter decided to appoint to the committee. Mr. Williams' friends and supporters are surprised that he should have appointed to the Committee on the District of Columbia two Democrats known to oppose the law.

By the way, certain Democrats from the South are pledging themselves to vote against the bill introduced by Representative Sims, of Virginia, for the purpose of securing to the people of the District of Columbia over twenty-one years of age, the question of whether liquor shall be sold in the District.

### HIGH-LICENSE ORDINANCE

Louisville Council Raises It to \$500 on Beer and Cider.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 26.—An ordinance increasing the license for saloons in Louisville from \$150 to \$500 was passed by the Board of Commissioners to-night and will in all probability be submitted to the Board of Aldermen and receive the approval of the Mayor next week.

The ordinance had been three times laid on the table, but all the newspapers rallied to its support, and the pressure in favor of the measure bore down. It is estimated that between 150 and 200 of the saloons will be closed, and that despite this fact a net increase of \$200,000 in revenue yearly will accrue to the city.

### VERY FEW WITHDRAWALS

Depositors in the New York Savings Bank.

NEW YORK, December 26.—To-day was the date of the expiration of the sixty-day withdrawal notices required by the savings banks at the height of the panic October 26. Depositors called for their money.

The banks expected few demands, as they were convinced that the feeling of financial unrest was practically over. In most cases to-day's withdrawals were more than offset by deposits.

### JACK HEADAGH

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Heart Eating. A perfect remedy for Biliousness, Dizziness, Headache, and all the troubles arising from an impure, bad blood in the system. Sold everywhere. Price, 25c.

### CASTORIA.

The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Be sure and get the Signature of J. C. Watson.

Refuse Substitutes.

## INDIANA HONORS HER FAVORITE SON

Mr. Beveridge Sounds Keynote, and Fairbanks's Boom Is Formally Launched.

### REVISE TARIFF AFTERWARD

Hoosier Republicans Would Amend Rate Law and Forbid Child Labor.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., December 26.—At the biennial Republican love feast to-day United States Senator Albert J. Beveridge delivered the principal address, outlining his views as to what should be the future action of the party, and reiterating his former statement that Indiana will stand solid in the next national convention for the party for the nomination of Vice-President Charles W. Fairbanks. Senator Beveridge said:

"We must amend the tariff law at points where it is defective. We must make good the tariff which now makes honest enterprises because it does not at the present conditions. We must improve the nation's waterways for which it furnishes opportunity and excuse. We must drive the canal to improve the nation's waterways that the people may have the transportation designed by its creator."

"We must and we shall end the infamy and shame of child labor in this republic. Those who say it is unconstitutional for the Supreme Court and the validity of those similar laws ready on the statute books. We Republicans regard the Constitution as Marshall regarded it. The chart of progress, but not the shield of wrong."

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## POWERS TRIAL IS HEARING CLOSE

Strenuous Effort by Defense to Discredit Testimony of Youtsey.

GEORGETOWN, KY., December 26.—The trial of John Powers for the alleged complicity in the murder of William Goebel is rapidly nearing its close. The defense has but a few more witnesses to examine, and it is believed the evidence will all be in by noon to-morrow.

The Commonwealth will be brief in rebuttal, and it is anticipated that the trial for both sides will be in by noon to-morrow.

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## JAMES SCOTT MOORE PASSES TO REWARD

Well-Known Virginia Editor and Publisher Dies at Lexington Home.

### WAS A GALLANT SOLDIER

Entered War With Rockbridge Rifles and Later Saw Service With the Cavalry.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) LEXINGTON, VA., December 26.—James Scott Moore, one of the founders of the Rockbridge County News and recently one of the proprietors of the Lexington Gazette, died at his home in Lexington this morning, aged sixty-three years. The cause of his death was Bright's disease. The funeral will take place to-morrow afternoon, with Masonic ceremonies.

Mr. Moore was born July 23, 1844, near Lexington, and was a son of William Price Moore, who came to Rockbridge from Albemarle county in 1837. He was descended from Revolutionary ancestry, his maternal grandfather being Captain Burr, an intimate friend of Thomas Jefferson. Mr. Moore received a thorough "old field" school education, and was a member of the Latin, Greek, algebra, etc., being then taught, and later attended school in Lexington. He acquired a fondness for the printing business, which he followed through life. He served with gallantry in the Civil War as a member of the Rockbridge Rifles, and later joined the cavalry service, and participated in nearly all the battles of the war.

Mr. Moore was a bright man, and had served as a member of the Rockbridge County News. He was a life-long Democrat and served for some years as a member of the Democratic executive committee of Rockbridge. For many years he was clerk of the county school board. He was a member of the Lexington Presbyterian Church; had been a member of the Virginia Press Association since its organization, and was twice a representative of the Lexington Press Association. He was an active member of Lee-Jackson Camp of Confederate Veterans of the North, and for some years was assistant inspector-general of the Grand Camp of Virginia for the Tenth Virginia District. Mr. Moore was married to Miss Mary Ann Maria Harrison, of Rockbridge. Three brothers and one sister also survive.

### OBITUARY

Mr. Edgar R. Davis died yesterday morning at 4:20 o'clock.

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## What Would it Cost?

What would it cost your family to live if you were taken away from them? You will admit that they would have to live. Figure out what it would cost them to live in the plainest way, then carefully investigate what it would cost you now to ensure them at least a minimum of comfort in such case by means of a policy in

## The Mutual Life Insurance Company

It is the business of the Mutual Life to stand between the families of its members and want. It is a mutual company. In its 64 years it has paid to and accumulated for its members 100 million dollars more than it has received from them, and nearly 200 millions more than any other company. It is easier than you realize to protect the home folks now. It costs nothing whatever to learn exactly how it can be done. Will you investigate?

**The Time to Act is NOW.**

For the new forms of policies write to  
The Mutual Life Insurance Company  
of New York, N. Y.

F. W. ADAMS, Manager, Mutual Building, Richmond, Va.

## Elegant Holiday Gifts

### The Nowlan Company

921 E. Main St., are headquarters for elegant gifts of fine Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry, Sterling Silver, Gold and Silver Novelties, Toilet Articles, etc., and when quality is considered their prices are the lowest.

All correspondence given careful attention. Goods sent on approval, express prepaid.

ing man, died yesterday at Clifton Forge, Va., while supposed to be recuperating from pneumonia. He was born in New York, sixty-two years ago, and was one of the first locomotive engineers on the Northern Pacific Railway, retiring recently because of defective eyesight. His son, Edward Copeland, of Winchester, survives him.

**Miss Ann Maria Harrison.**—(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) LEXINGTON, VA., December 26.—Miss Ann Maria Harrison, daughter of the late Burr W. Harrison, a prominent lawyer, died yesterday afternoon at her home in Lexington. She was seventy-nine years of age, and an aunt of Judge Thomas W. Harrison, of Winchester. Many relatives in Lexington survive.

**W. J. B. Scherer.**—(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) WINSTON, N. C., December 26.—W. J. B. Scherer, aged fifty-three, and a native of Virginia, died yesterday in Norfolk, Va., while on a business trip. He was a prominent citizen of Winston, and was a member of the Norfolk and Western Railway. He was a native of Virginia, and was a member of the Norfolk and Western Railway. He was a native of Virginia, and was a member of the Norfolk and Western Railway. He was a native of Virginia, and was a member of